

## *New Programs and Initiatives*

Along with the 1999 Budget Act, the Legislature passed and the Governor signed a number of trailer bills that enacted several new education programs. These include:

- AB 1115 (Chapter 78/99), the omnibus education trailer bill, which—among other provisions—creates a new funding model for charter schools and a new program for classroom library materials in kindergarten and grades 1–4
- AB 1113 (Chapter 51/99), which creates a new school safety grant program
- AB 1114 (Chapter 52/99), which provides salary bonuses to certificated staff in low-performing schools that boost student achievement
- AB 1116 (Chapter 71/99), which creates a new English-language acquisition program targeted at pupils in grades 4–8
- AB 1117 (Chapter 53/99), which provides financial incentives to increase the salaries of beginning teachers to at least \$32,000 per year

In addition, the budget includes \$7.5 million to fund 32 school district projects to meet unique local needs. The appropriations for those projects are contained in the omnibus education trailer bill (AB 1115, Chapter 78/99). The California Department of Education will administer the grants on a case-by-case basis through individual notifications to the local educational agencies specified in the legislation. Accordingly, they are not detailed in this report.

## Beginning Teacher Salary Increase

Budget Act Item 6110-133-0001

Assembly Bill 1117, Chapter 53, Statutes of 1998

*Education Code* Section 45023.4

### **1999-00 Budget Provisions**

- \$50 million is provided from the General Fund as incentive funding to increase beginning teacher salaries to at least \$32,000.
- The funding rate will be determined by dividing the Budget Act appropriation of \$50 million by the total ADA (second principal apportionment) for participating local educational agencies (LEAs).
- The revenue limit for each LEA that meets program requirements and certifies participation in the program will be adjusted in 2000-01 and thereafter to reflect the amounts received in 1999-00.

### **CDE Staff Comments**

A certification of full compliance with the provisions of *Education Code* Section 45023.4 must be submitted to the School Fiscal Services Division to receive program funding. The certification will be due March 2000 to ensure that funding can be made available with the 1999-00 second principal apportionment.

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## Certificated Staff Performance Bonuses

Budget Act Item 6110-133-0001

Assembly Bill 1114, Chapter 52, Statutes of 1999

*Education Code* sections 44650 through 44654

### **1999-00 Budget Provisions:**

- \$50 million is provided for performance-based incentive bonuses for certificated employees in underachieving schools that demonstrate significant improvement in student academic achievement as measured by a new Academic Performance Index.
- The State Board of Education is to establish eligibility criteria and to specify how award amounts will be determined, not to exceed an average of \$25,000 per full-time certificated staff person.

### **CDE Staff Comments:**

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction is required to allocate funds to school districts and charter schools that have certified that they satisfy certain eligibility requirements and to notify the exclusive representative of the teachers and other certificated staff in each district of the availability of the funds. Upon receiving an allocation, the district governing board is required to negotiate the amounts of individual awards with the representative of the certificated staff. AB 1114 provides a method for determining individual award amounts in the event that an agreement is not reached between the governing board and the representative. It is anticipated that the first allocations under this program will be made in the fall of 2000.

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## Charter School Funding Model

Budget Act Item 6110-211-0001

Assembly Bill 1115, Chapter 78, Statutes of 1999

*Education Code* sections 47630 through 47664

### ***1999-00 Budget Provisions***

- AB 1115 creates a new charter school funding model. Participation in the model is required for all new charter schools (those receiving a number on or after June 1, 1999) and is optional for existing charter schools. All charter schools must convert to the new model by fiscal year 2002-03.
- The new model provides participating charter schools with a general-purpose block grant (in lieu of revenue limit funding) and a categorical block grant (in lieu of specified state categorical aid). Block grant funds may be used for any purpose. Charter schools may also apply for state and federal categorical funds from sources not included within the block grant funding rates, subject to the specific terms and conditions of those programs.
- The budget funds the general-purpose block grant through the continuous statutory appropriation for revenue limits. The budget also appropriates \$20 million for the categorical block grant.

### ***CDE Staff Comments***

An advance apportionment for charter schools participating in the new AB 1115 funding model was made in August 1999, and another will be made in November. Those schools will receive the remainder of their block grant funds in monthly installments throughout the remainder of the 1999-00 fiscal year subsequent to the first principal apportionment. Sponsoring school districts (defined as districts that granted the charters or, in the case of charters granted by a county office of education or the State Board of Education, the districts that initially denied the charter applica-

tion) are also required to transfer a pro rata share of property taxes to charter schools in monthly installments as specified.

For additional information regarding the charter school funding model, please consult CDE's charter school Internet web site at [www.cde.ca.gov/charter](http://www.cde.ca.gov/charter).

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## Classroom Libraries, K–4

Budget Act Item 6110-150-0001

Assembly Bill 1115, Chapter 78, Statutes of 1999

*Education Code* sections 18200 through 18203

### 1999-00 Budget Provisions

- \$25 million is provided from the General Fund for classroom libraries in kindergarten and grades 1–4.
- To be eligible for this funding, school districts must develop and obtain governing board certification of a districtwide classroom library plan for kindergarten and grades 1–4. Charter schools must develop and certify approval of a classroom library plan.
- Funds must be used for the purchase of grade-level appropriate reading materials (nontextbook fiction and nonfiction books and periodicals).
- The rate is approximately \$10.48 per the October 1998 CBEDS enrollment for kindergarten and grades 1–4.

### CDE Staff Comments

Funds will be apportioned in a lump-sum payment in March 2000. The Curriculum Frameworks and Instructional Resources (CFIR) Office is preparing an application packet that will be distributed within the next few weeks.

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## English-Language Acquisition Program

Budget Act Item 6110-125-0001

Assembly Bill 1116, Chapter 71, Statutes of 1999

*Education Code* sections 400 through 410

### **1999-00 Budget Provisions**

- \$50 million is provided from the General Fund for English learners to become proficient in English.
- \$5 million is provided from the General Fund to train teachers and other school personnel to provide standards-based instruction for English learners.
- Participating LEAs may receive \$100 for each pupil participating in the program in grades 4–8 plus a one-time amount of \$100 for every pupil (in any grade) reclassified as fluent in English.

### **CDE Staff Comments**

As a condition of receiving funds, participating LEAs must certify that they will do all of the following:

- Conduct academic assessments of English learners to ensure appropriate placement.
- Provide a program of instruction to help pupils achieve the English-language development standards adopted by the State Board of Education.
- Provide supplemental instructional support (e.g., intersession, before and after school) to assist English learners in acquiring English proficiency.

- Coordinate services and funding sources available to English learners.

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## Immediate Interventions/Underperforming Schools Program

Budget Act Item: None—Statutory Appropriation  
Senate Bill 1X, Chapter 3, Statutes of 1999  
*Education Code* sections 52053 through 52055.5

### **1999-00 Budget Provisions:**

- SB 1X appropriates a total of \$96.2 million (\$63.7 million state General Fund and \$32.5 million federal funds) for a new Immediate Interventions/Underperforming Schools program.
- 430 schools will be selected to participate in the program and will be chosen from those that scored in the bottom half of the statewide distribution on the STAR tests administered in the spring of 1998 and 1999. If an insufficient number of schools volunteer to participate, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction is authorized to select participants randomly according to specified criteria.
- Schools selected to participate on or before September 1, 1999, will receive planning grants of \$50,000.

### **CDE Staff Comments**

The Immediate Interventions/Underperforming Schools Program provides funding for planning and implementation. The planning schools will receive a grant of \$50,000 to work with an external evaluator and develop an action plan. The action plan must be approved by the school district governing board before submission to CDE. The implementation schools will receive a grant of \$200 per pupil or a minimum of \$50,000 to implement a

comprehensive school reform demonstration program for 1999-00. They can receive grants for an additional two years as long as the students make the necessary academic improvement each year. Schools that do not make the necessary growth within two years of receiving implementation funds are subject to local and state sanctions.

CDE has approved 1999-00 grants to 430 schools that have volunteered for the program.

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## Mentor Teacher / Peer Assistance and Review

Budget Act Item: None—Statutory Appropriation  
Assembly Bill 1X, Chapter 4, Statutes of 1999

*Education Code* sections 44500 through 44508 and 44662 through 44664 (Peer Assistance and Review)

*Education Code* sections 44490 through 44498 (Mentor Teacher)

### **1999-00 Budget Provisions**

- \$83.2 million is appropriated in AB 1X for the mentor teacher program. The funding will be distributed according to the current formula for funding the program. The number of mentor teacher positions allocated to an LEA will be based on 5 percent of the LEA's October 1998 CBEDS certificated teacher count. LEAs are expected to receive approximately \$5,642 per mentor.



- An additional \$0.2 million is provided in the 1999 Budget Act to fund Supplemental Grant allocations for the mentor teacher program as previously elected by school districts.
- \$41.8 million is appropriated in AB 1X for implementing the Peer Assistance and Review (PAR) program. To qualify for this funding, LEAs must submit a "Notification of Intent to Implement a California Peer Assistance and Review Program" to the Department of Education, Professional Development Office, by June 30, 2000. The 1999-00 PAR funding will be distributed according to the number of mentors calculated for the district for FY 1999-00 multiplied by \$2,800.
- School districts, including those giving notice of implementation of the PAR program, may continue their mentor teacher programs in 1999-00. Governing mentor statutes will not, however, apply to districts that notify the Department of Education that they plan to implement a PAR program.

### *CDE Staff Comments*

Districts that do not submit a "Notification of Intent to Implement a California Peer Assistance and Review Program for FY 1999-2000" by June 30, 2000 will not receive the additional \$2,800 bonus per mentor position. LEAs not implementing the PAR program by July 2000 will have an opportunity to submit an Intent to Implement form in FY 2000-2001. The deadline for this delayed intent form will be May 31, 2001, and the bonus funding provided per mentor position will decrease to a maximum of \$1,000 per position. Please refer to the June 9, 1999, memo to county and district superintendents from Sonia Hernandez, Deputy Superintendent, Curriculum and Instructional Leadership Branch, for a copy of the intent form and for additional information regarding the PAR program.

Application for the mentor teacher program was made in Part I of the 1999-2000 Consolidated Application. LEAs will be notified of the calculated number of mentor positions and the

corresponding program entitlement amount in a Notice of Entitlement/Program Information letter to be sent to superintendents in October 1999.

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## Per-Pupil Block Grant

Budget Act Item: None—Statutory Appropriation  
Assembly Bill 1115, Chapter 78, Statutes of 1999 (Section 67)

### **1999-00 Budget Provisions**

- A \$134 million one-time appropriation is provided from the General Fund.
  - \$40.2 million will be allocated at an approximate rate of \$9.60 per prior-year K–8 CBEDS enrollment.
  - \$93.8 million will be allocated at an approximate rate of \$56.68 per prior-year 9–12 CBEDS enrollment.

### **CDE Staff Comments**

This one-time appropriation will provide school districts and charter schools with funds to support implementing the new statewide accountability system. The funds, which will be apportioned in December 1999, may be used for any of the following purposes: (1) instructional materials; (2) the Staff Development Buyout Program; and (3) other staff development activities.

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## Reading Programs

Budget Act Item: None—Statutory Appropriation

Assembly Bill 2X, Chapter 2, Statutes of 1999

*Education Code* sections 42239.1, 53025 through 53031

### **1999-00 Budget Provisions**

- \$75 million was provided from the General Fund for elementary school intensive reading programs for kindergarten and grades 1–4.
- District entitlements for the programs are capped at 10 percent of prior-year enrollment multiplied by 120 hours and an hourly rate of \$2.53 (after deficit).
- A minimum funding level of \$6,738 is provided for small school districts with less than 500 ADA that offer at least 1,500 hours of instruction. Small school districts that offer less than 1,500 hours will be reimbursed at the hourly rate of \$4.49.

### **CDE Staff Comments**

Funding for elementary school intensive reading programs for 1999-00 is based on the number of students hours reported on Form J-18/19, Report of Attendance. See Appendix 1, “Calendar of Key Deadlines for 1999-00 Apportionments,” for the dates for reporting apportionment information.

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## School Performance Awards

Budget Act Item: None—Statutory Appropriation

Senate Bill 1X, Chapter 3, Statutes of 1999

*Education Code* sections 52056 through 52058

### **1999-00 Budget Provisions**

- SB 1X appropriates a total of \$96.2 million (state General Fund) for a new High-Achieving/Improving Schools program.
- Monetary and nonmonetary awards will be provided to schools that meet or exceed specified growth targets as measured by a new Academic Performance Index.
- Monetary awards will be made on either a per-pupil or per-school basis, not to exceed \$150 per pupil.

### **CDE Staff Comments**

All schools are eligible to participate in the High-Achieving/Improving Schools program. The manner and form in which awards are made are to be established by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and approved by the State Board of Education. In addition to or in lieu of monetary awards, the State Superintendent is required to establish nonmonetary awards, including classification as a distinguished school and public commendation by the Governor and the Legislature. The first awards are expected to be given in fall 2000.

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## School Safety Grants

Budget Act Items 6110-228-0001 and 6110-485 (one-time funds)  
 Assembly Bill 1113, Chapter 51, Statutes of 1999  
*Education Code* sections 32228 through 32228.2

### **1999-00 Budget Provisions**

- \$100 million (\$71.1 million ongoing and \$28.9 million one-time) in state funds is provided for school safety grants to districts maintaining any of grades 8–12.
- Funds will be allocated based on enrollment of pupils in grades 8–12, with minimum allocations of \$5,000 per school site or \$10,000 per district, whichever is greater.
- Funds may be used for purposes that contribute to the provision of safe schools and reduction of violence among pupils, including:
  - Conflict resolution
  - On-campus safety devices
  - Partnerships with law enforcement

### **CDE Staff Comments**

Although funding allocations are generated according to enrollment in grades 8–12, funds may be used for any purpose that improves school safety or contributes to violence reduction and need not be limited to benefiting students in those grades.

County offices are not eligible for block grant funding.

All school districts were mailed an information and application packet on August 31, 1999. To receive the funds, districts must complete a set of assurances included in the packet and return those assurances to CDE by October 29, 1999. Funds will be disbursed via a special apportionment in January 2000.

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